

Well managed MPAs in the UK- what does this mean and how do we achieve it?



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ukseasproject.org.uk/



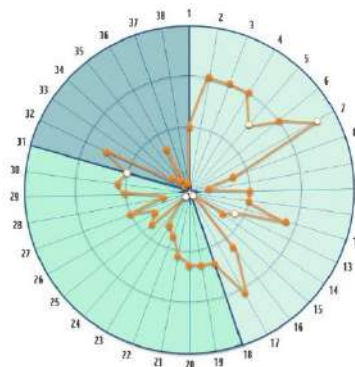
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Key messages

1. MPAs can help protect key benefits but only when they are well-managed
2. WWF's UK SEAS project is working to improve the way that MPAs are managed
3. The compass evaluates how well MPAs are being managed
4. This can be used to identify areas of good practice and aspects of management which need improving



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MPAs in the UK



- 24% of UK waters designated as MPAs, committed to 30% target by 2030
- But 59% of MPAs in Europe are commercially trawled and trawling is actually higher inside than outside MPAs (Dureuil et al, Science, Dec 2018)
- At EAC Sustainable Seas inquiry, Defra chief scientist Ian Boyd said ‘we’re not evaluating whether MPAs are working’



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UK SEAS Project

- 5 year programme of work led by WWF
- Aim: improve management of MPAs in case study areas, and develop tools and approaches for sharing
- Work areas:
 - Marine governance structures
 - Sustainable funding for MPAs
 - Engaging local communities



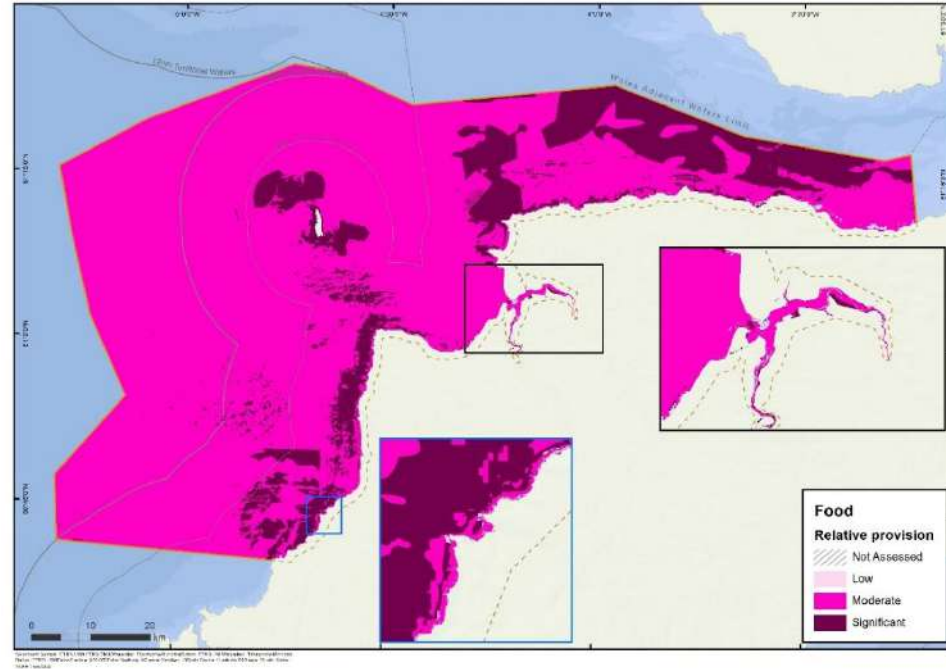
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Benefits at risk

- Benefits include seafood, flood protection, recreation and tourism, healthy climate
- 45% of all habitats in N Devon exposed to pressures that are likely to reduce provision of benefits
- Coastal saltmarsh provides highest contribution but only 1/3 in MPAs has management measures

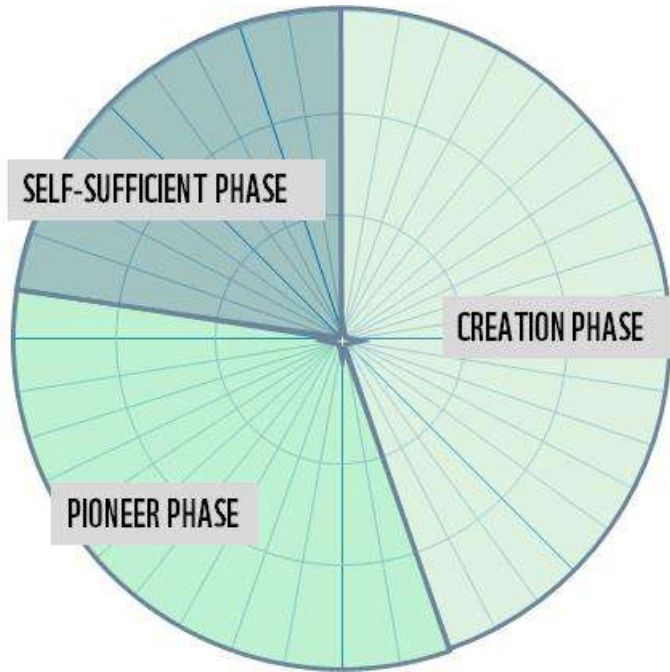


Siân Rees, Matthew Ashley,
Andrew Cameron



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The Compass



- Three phases
- 38 criteria including: have the pressures been identified? Is there a management plan? Is the MPA achieving its objectives?
- Identify areas of good practice and aspects which need improving
- Can be used to track MPA progress over time



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North Devon pilot



- Online stakeholder survey in Summer 2018
- 5 marine and coastal protected areas in North Devon
- Full report on website: ukseasproject.org.uk/

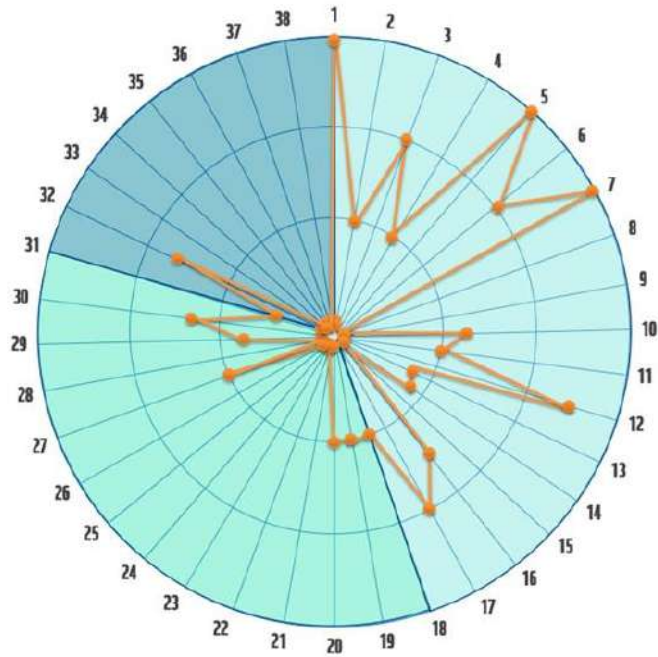
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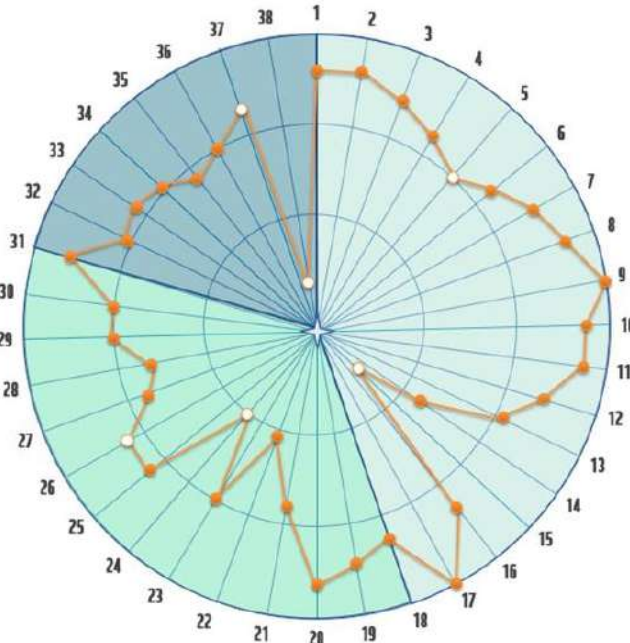
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Results

Bristol Channel Approaches SAC



Lundy SAC and MCZ



Conclusions

- Good scores in creation phase but not in self-sufficient, reflects focus on designation and need to move onto active management
- Lack of public knowledge and understanding of MPAs
- Concerns over enforcement and long-term funding for MPAs



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Next steps



- Address areas of weakness at local and national scales to improve management effectiveness scores (e.g. developing sustainable finance mechanisms)
- Refine tool based on learning from pilots in UK and Europe



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Thanks for listening!



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